

Remarks

In the action, 1-3, 5 and 7-14 were rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,498,695 to Pardo.

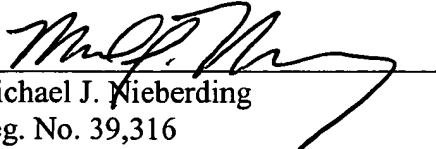
The undersigned attorney appreciates the telephone conference with Examiner Eloshway, which took place on April 4, 2002, during which the Pardo reference and the invention were discussed. The undersigned subsequently submitted proposed amendments corresponding to those made above to claims 1, 7, 11 and 14 for consideration by the examiner. The examiner's initial indications were that such amendments appeared to distinguish over Pardo.

Each of claims 1, 7, 11, 13 and 14 have been amended to further define the nature of movement of the lid that is provided. In particular, the lid is capable of movement in multiple directions to facilitate proper seating of the lid. Claims 1, 7 and 11 expressly recite that such movement includes movement other than pivotal movement. In contrast, the Pardo lid can only pivot slightly via its coupling to the pivot pin 58 (see Pardo Fig. 4 and col. 7, lines 14-18).

Claims 11, 13 and 14 further distinguish over Pardo by requiring that the condensate rim be positioned to cause condensate to run back into the kettle when the arm is in the up position. In contrast, Pardo teaches a rim that drains moisture away from the cooker (see col. 7, lines 36-41). Pardo teaches this because the Pardo device is a pressurized fryer and its cabinet 12 is intended to hold hot oil.

Based on the foregoing, applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in condition for allowance. Please contact the undersigned attorney with any questions regarding this submission.

Respectfully submitted,


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